

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A personal smart device capable of interfacing with a first computer device for interacting with an application executing on said first computer device, said personal smart device comprising:

a memory storage device for enabling storage of interface settings data for configuring an interface of an application executing on said first computing device, said interface settings data of an application having been customized at said first computing device according to a user preference;

a mechanism for receiving said interface settings data from said first computing device for storage in said memory storage device when said personal smart device is interfaced with said first computing device; and,

a mechanism for communicating said stored customized interface settings data from said memory storage device for registration with a same user application executing on a second computing device for altering said user interface for said application in accordance with said user customized interface settings data, wherein said personal smart device is transportable for transferring user customized application interface settings of many user applications of a first computer device for subsequent personalized use of same applications executing on second computing devices.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said second computing device retains original user application interface settings data currently existing in said second computing device prior to altering said user application with said user customized application interface settings data, and restores said original user application interface settings data preferences for said user application after disconnecting said personal smart device from said second computing device.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said customized interface settings data of user applications are stored in associated preference files in said memory storage device.

Claim 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said communication mechanism implements a universal serial bus (USB) communications protocol.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said communication mechanism transfers signals including said interface settings data according to a wireless communications protocol.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said wireless communications protocol includes a BlueTooth radio frequency (RF) communications standard.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 7, wherein said wireless communications protocol includes an IEEE 802.11 communications standard.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising a touch-sensitive panel interface responsive to user entry comprising one or more graffiti characters each representing an application to be launched in said personal smart pointer device.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising password protection mechanism for enabling user to use said pointer device.

Claim 12-13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a first and second computing device comprises one of: a personal computer, a personal digital assistant, a cellular phone, and a network device.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising means for recognizing a like application being executed on said second computing

device and automatically initiates said communication of customized interface settings data thereto.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A method for customizing application interface settings in computing devices via a personal smart device, said method comprising:

- a) inputting interface settings data for configuring an interface of an application executing in ~~said~~ a first computing device to said personal smart device, said interface settings data of an application having been customized at said first computing device according to a user preference;
- b) storing said customized interface settings data in a memory storage device provided in said personal smart device;
- c) subsequently transferring said stored customized application interface settings data for registration with a like user application executing in a second computing device; and,
- d) altering said user interface for said like user application executing in said second computing device in accordance with said customized application interface settings data, wherein said personal smart device is transportable for transferring user customized application interface settings data of many user applications of first computing devices to facilitate use of like applications in second computing devices.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein prior to step d), the step of retaining original user application interface settings data currently existing in said second computing device.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in Claim 17, wherein after use of said like application on said second device by said user, the step of: restoring said original user application interface settings data for said like application on said second computing device after disconnecting said smart personal device from said second computing device.

Claim 19 (Original): The method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said receiving step a) and transferring step d) is accomplished in accordance with a wireless communications protocol.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein a first and second computing device comprises one of: a personal computer, a personal digital assistant, a cellular phone, and a network device.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said transferring step c) further comprises the step of: recognizing a like application being executed on said second computing device and automatically initiating said transfer of personalized user preferences.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for customizing application interface settings executing in computing devices, said method steps including the steps of:

a) inputting interface settings data for configuring an interface of an application executing in ~~said~~ a first computing device to a personal smart device, said interface settings

data of an application having been customized at said first computing device according to a user preference;

b) storing said customized interface settings data in a memory storage device provided in a personal smart device;

c) subsequently transferring said stored customized application interface settings data for registration with a like user application executing in a second computing device; and,

d) altering said user interface for said like user application executing in said second computing device in accordance with said customized application interface settings data, wherein said personal smart device is transportable for transferring user customized interface settings data of many user applications of first computing devices to facilitate use of like applications in second computing devices.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The program storage device readable by a machine as claimed in Claim 22, wherein prior to step d), the step of retaining original user application interface settings data currently existing in said second computing device.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The program storage device readable by a machine as claimed in Claim 23, wherein after use of said like application on said second computing device by said user, the step of: restoring said original user application interface settings data for said like application on said second computing device after disconnecting said personal smart device from said second computing device.

Claim 25 (Original): The program storage device readable by a machine as claimed in Claim 22, wherein said receiving step a) and transferring step d) is accomplished in accordance with a wireless communications protocol.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The program storage device readable by a machine as claimed in Claim 22, wherein a first and second computing device comprises one of: a personal computer, a personal digital assistant, a cellular phone, and a network device.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The program storage device readable by a machine as claimed in Claim 22, wherein said transferring step c) further comprises the step of: recognizing a like application being executed on said second device and automatically initiating said transfer of personalized user preferences.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said user application interface settings data comprises a user profile of applications adapted for display via a computing device display interface.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The personal smart device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said user application interface settings data comprises one or more selected from the group comprising: screen resolution data, screen saver application, menu choices, preferred settings such as font, document style, and dictionaries for various applications, browser bookmarks, history of web sites visited, history of files last viewed, registry settings, and, a bar of icons personalized for applications.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said user application interface settings data comprises a user profile of applications adapted for display via a computing device display interface.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said user application interface settings data comprises one or more selected from the group comprising: screen resolution data, screen saver application, menu choices, preferred settings such as font, document style, and dictionaries for various applications, browser bookmarks, history of web sites visited, history of files last viewed, registry settings, and, a bar of icons personalized for applications.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for customizing a first computing device with application interface settings customized for an application executing in a second computing device, said apparatus comprising:

a portable device adapted to interface with said second computing device for receiving therefrom application interface settings data for configuring an interface of an application executing on said second computing device, said interface settings data of an application having been customized according to a user preference, said portable device including a memory storage means for storing said interface settings data;

means for automatically communicating said interface settings data from said memory storage means of said portable device for registration with a same user application executing on said first computing device for formatting said interface of said same user application interface on said first computing device in accordance with said user customized interface settings data,

whereby a user ~~may interface~~ interfaces with an application executing on any computing device in a manner which they are accustomed.